The STRIPES Communiqué is one of the many ways you will receive information and progress updates about the STRIPES Project. If you did not receive this communiqué via e-mail and would like to be added to the STRIPES mailing list, send an e-mail to STRIPES@hq.doe.gov with the word "subscribe" in the subject line.

Riding the Waves of Change

"*If you are not riding the waves of change – you'll find yourself beneath them.*"
    - Anonymous

Change is inevitable, everybody knows that. Still, most people seem to resist change even if it's positive. In today's environment, nothing stays the same for very long, so those who are unable to effectively "ride the waves" will likely find themselves feeling overwhelmed. Like a surfer riding the crest of a wave, we too can experience change that "works for us."

As waves of change continue, the STRIPES application is like a surfboard that will help us stay above the action and work to our advantage. STRIPES is an E-procurement application and stands for **Strategic Integrated Procurement Enterprise System**. The implementation of STRIPES results in standardized procurement and financial processes across the Department of Energy (Department) and is a key component of the automated, web-based management system known as **I-MANAGE.** Most of the Department's core business systems will be centrally located and include:

- **Procurement (STRIPES)**
- Travel (GovTrip)
- Standard Accounting and Reporting System (STARS)
- Budget Formulation and Execution (Standard Budget System, SBS)
- Performance Metrics (Joule)
- Human Resources (CHRIS)
- Payroll (outsourced to DFAS in 2004)
- Facilities Management (TBD)
- Research & Development (TBD)

STRIPES will be tightly linked to the other I-MANAGE systems, as well as to external systems you use, e.g. FBO and grants.gov. However, the STRIPES project is more than the implementation of an e-procurement application. To properly configure STRIPES, the Project Management Team will examine existing business processes, incorporating the best and streamlining the rest. Scheduled to go live in January 2008, STRIPES will standardize Department-wide procurement and financial assistance with modern technology and new business processes. In order to maximize STRIPES' potential, all of DOE will be riding the STRIPES wave.

STRIPES will integrate with the I-MANAGE Data Warehouse (IDW) in order to provide central reporting across DOE corporate applications. The IDW will allow users to obtain financial, procurement, human resource and other corporate data into a single, consolidated report. The IDW currently contains data from the STARS financial system, FPDS-NG and the GOALS small business system; IDW will begin carrying human resource data from CHRIS in mid-2006.

In 2004, Clay Johnson, the Deputy Director for Management at OMB said that DOE was "leading the pack with regard to management improvement and [is] the furthest along to becoming the well managed, results-oriented organizations we want the whole government to become." While other agencies are still learning how to swim, DOE's STRIPES implementation will help us continue riding the wave of IT innovation with cutting edge procurement and financial assistance tools. The time is coming when we will say, *"How did we ever get along without this?"*

For more information about the I-MANAGE Program, check out the website at:

http://www.mbe.doe.gov/me2-5/i-manage/

STRIPES Reaches Out to Procurement Professionals

The STRIPES Project Team continued reaching out to procurement professionals with an informative cross-functional meeting on April 25, 2006 in Washington, DC. The attendees consisted of representatives from contract management, Headquarters operational staff, procurement policy, personal property management and the IT systems communities. STRIPES Federal Project Director Doug Baptist (MA-65) led the discussion which included a briefing on the current requirements re-validation phase and project vision and scope.

The current requirements re-validation phase provided Procurement Directors and their staff with the opportunity to comment on the future capabilities of the system. Each Procurement Director received a copy of the mandatory and value-added functions, which will form the basis for the software package selection this summer. *"STRIPES affects everyone and is a part of your future. We invite you to participate in building your future,"* Mr. Baptist told the audience.

STRIPES Federal Project Director, Doug Baptist speaks to Headquarters Procurement staff

In outlining the project scope, Mr. Baptist stated that it included acquisition and financial assistance planning, solicitation development, evaluation and award and many other processes. This change addresses disparate systems and diverse levels of automation currently in use throughout the Department's various contracting activities that are struggling to handle the increasing demands of internal and external users, stakeholders, and customers.

Attendees were given a pocket-sized card with information about STRIPES and how they can assist the project, as well as being advised that the STRIPES Team is available to talk with them or any interested stakeholders at any time. To arrange a presentation from the STRIPES Team or to request a STRIPES pocket card, please send an e-mail to STRIPES@hq.doe.gov or contact the STRIPES Organizational Change Manager, Laura Freeman, laura.freeman@netl.doe.gov

Requirements Re-validation phase Completed Ahead of Schedule

The STRIPES Project Team continued reaching out to procurement professionals with an informative cross-functional meeting on April 25, 2006 in Washington, DC. The attendees consisted of representatives from contract management, Headquarters operations, procurement policy, personal property management and the IT systems communities.

Although a Requirements Baseline was developed as recently as December 2004, the re-launch of STRIPES in March 2006 necessitated a re-validation of the requirements to ensure 1) they still meet the needs of our users and 2) they comply with the latest federal regulations, statutes, policies and industry best practices.

With the completion of the requirements re-validation, we can proceed with the STRIPES Package Selection and Enablement Phase. This will entail the selection, acquisition and configuration of the software package. Because of the early completion with re-validation, the next stage is off to an early start.

STRIPES Project Information

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